

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** arthritis includes more than 100 diseases and conditions which affect joints and connective tissues, causing symptoms including pain, stiffness, and swelling in or around joints; and

**WHEREAS,** millions of Americans of all ages live with the pain and limitations of some form of arthritis, with these debilitating conditions affecting approximately thirty percent of all South Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS,** raising awareness of the prevention and treatment of arthritis helps ensure the continued well-being of our residents; and

**WHEREAS,** during the 2007 observance of Arthritis Awareness Month, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Arthritis Foundation will encourage people to stay active, maintain a healthy weight, and avoid injuries as measures to prevent arthritis and will encourage those who have arthritis to seek appropriate medical treatment, participate in regular physical activity, and practice self-management approaches as measures to manage their condition.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2007 as

### ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about the prevention and treatment of arthritis through quality care and services.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

**MARK SANFORD**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**